



Attorney Docket No. 55218-0519

7153  
#8  
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12/12-av

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

|                         |   |                          |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Thomas Markson, et al.  | ) | Confirmation No.: 3062   |
| Serial No.: 09/885,290  | ) | Examiner: NYA            |
| Filed on: June 19, 2001 | ) | Group Art Unit No.: 2153 |

For: VIRTUAL STORAGE LAYER APPROACH FOR DYNAMICALLY ASSOCIATING COMPUTER STORAGE WITH PROCESSING HOSTS

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Technology Center 2100

Sir:

Enclosed is a copy of Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 together with copies of the documents cited on that form. It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be considered and that the enclosed Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 be initialed by the Examiner to indicate such consideration and a copy thereof returned to applicant(s).

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in this statement is material to patentability.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted under one of the following (as indicated by an "X" to the left of the appropriate paragraph):

X 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).

\_\_\_\_\_ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If so, then this Information Disclosure Statement includes one of the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ A statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

\_\_\_\_\_ 1.97(e)(1) The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart

foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1.97(e)(2) The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

\_\_\_\_\_ A check for \$180.00 for the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

\_\_\_\_\_ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If so, then this Information Disclosure Statement includes the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ A statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

\_\_\_\_\_ 1.97(e)(1) The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement; OR

\_\_\_\_\_ 1.97(e)(2) The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

AND

\_\_\_\_\_ A check for \$180.00 for the fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) for submission of the Information Disclosure Statement.

\_\_\_\_\_ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(i). Wherein applicants are submitting references before the grant of a patent to be placed in the file but not considered by the Patent office.

- (1) Accordingly, copies of the references as listed on the attached Form PTO 1449 are submitted herewith for placement in the file. No certification or fees are deemed necessary.

Throughout the pendency of this application, please charge any additional fees, including any required extension of time fees, and credit all overpayments to deposit account 50-1302. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: December 4, 2002



Christopher J. Palermo  
Reg. No. 42,056

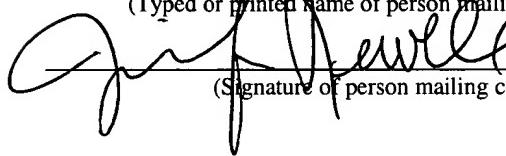
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231 on December 4, 2002  
(Date of Deposit)

Jennifer Newell

(Typed or printed name of person mailing correspondence)



(Signature of person mailing correspondence)

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|----------------|
| Exam.<br>Initial*        | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document |                     |                                      | Name of Patentee or Applicant<br>of Cited Document | Date of Publication<br>of Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages,<br>Colum<br>ns,<br>Lines,<br>Where<br>Releva<br>nt<br>Passag<br>es or<br>Releva<br>nt<br>Figures<br>Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                          | Office <sup>3</sup>     | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup><br>(If known) |  |  |   |                |
|                          |                          | EP                      | 0 750 256           | A2                                   | Data General Corporation                           | 12-27-1996   |   |                |
|                          |                          | EP                      | 0 262 750           | A2                                   | Thinking Machines Corporation                      | 04-06-1988   |   |                |
|                          |                          | EP                      | 0 905 621           | A1                                   | Lucent Technologies Inc.                           | 03-31-1999   |   |                |

|                       |  |                 |  |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------|--|

**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard S.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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